

DELAWARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

**The Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, Delaware 19901**

Meeting Minutes

The Department of Education
The Cabinet Room

January 6, 2011
1:15 P.M.

Members Present: Joanne Christian, Stephanie DeWitt, Karen Gordon, Lori Hudson, Chris Kenton, David Kohan, Jill Lewandowski, Wendy Murray, Whitney Price, Shelley Rouser, Kathleen Thomas and Jacqueline Wisnauskas.

Members Absent: Michael Casson, Samtra Devard, Marilyn Dollard, and Cristy Greaves.

Others Present: Charlie Michels; PSB Executive Director, Paula Fontello; Deputy Attorney General, Christopher Ruszkowski, RTTT Deputy Officer TLEU Teacher Preparation & Recruitment, Pearl Carrington; current Secretary to PSB, Michelle Kriss; future Secretary to PSB, Judi Coffield; State Board of Education Policy Analyst, and Debbie Stevens; DSEA.

I. Opening

Call to Order: Ms. Thomas, Professional Standards Board Chair, called the meeting to Order at 1:25 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Ms. Wisnauskas and seconded by Ms. DeWitt to approve the evening's Agenda. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of December 2, 2010: A motion was made by Ms. Wisnauskas and seconded by Ms. Hudson to approve the PSB Minutes of December 2, 2010. The motion carried.

II. Public Comment

None

III. Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Michels shared with the PSB members a DOE Press Release from Dr. Lillian Lowery regarding DOE and Wesley College's agreement wherein the Delaware Department of Education [DOE] has granted Wesley College provisional approval to continue to operate its Teacher Education Program until June 30, 2012. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education [NCATE] approval for Wesley College expired on December 31, 2010.
- Mr. Michels arranged with Delaware's Educational Testing Services (ETS) Regional Client Representative Cathy Owens-Oliver to meet with the Delaware

Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (DACTE) on December 14, 2010 to discuss Praxis and ETS' initiatives. Ms. Owens-Oliver shared strategies for students and resources available to both students and staff. The presentation was very well received.

- The State Board of Education held their Retreat on December 3, 2010. Mr. Michels attended to share current Emergency Certificate data and information with the Board. A critical conversation ensued. Mr. Michels noted that he had requested of the DOE appropriate *eschool* data which would be student-related, but had yet to receive the Report. He was encouraged to bring the information forward to Dr. Lowery.
- Mr. Michels has scheduled a meeting with Ms. Thomas and Dr. Lowery on January 12th regarding Emergency Certificates.
- Mr. Michels, working with ETS, has scheduled Review Committees for 4 Praxis II tests: Technology Education, Marketing Education, Health Education and Family and Consumer Sciences. DOE Education Associates are in the process of gathering appropriate Committee members for January 20 and 21, 2011. Adding these tests to the list of 'applicable and available' Praxis II tests would help to 'set the bar' for certification. Mr. Michels will be bringing the recommendations of the Committees forward to the PSB for their review.
- Revocation Hearing Update - The latest PSB Hearing has been removed from PSB Jurisdiction. There will be no review by the PSB.
- RTTT Professional Development Certification System – Mr. Michels stated that he has been working with a committee formed by DOE's Dr. Amelia Hodges. There is a meeting scheduled for Friday, Jan. 7th. The possible depth of PSB involvement has yet to be resolved.
- Mr. Michels stated that he is an active participant on the RTTT RFP review committee that has listened to 2 Alternative Teacher Certification program presentations. One more presentation will be shared within a week.
- Mr. Michels thanked everyone for their kind words, emails and notes of sympathy for the recent loss of his Mother.
- Mr. Michels introduced Ms. Michelle Kriss, who will be stepping in as the new PSB Secretary. Pearl Carrington will assume a full time position in the DOE Accountability Resources Workgroup. Mr. Michels presented Ms. Carrington with the coveted PSB-engraved exotic wood pen and pencil set for her valuable services and commitment to the Professional Standards Board of over five years.

IV. DOE Report

Mr. Michels introduced Mr. Christopher Ruskowski, Deputy Officer, Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit. Mr. Ruskowski gave a brief report on the current status of his Unit's initiatives and completed work.

V. Action Items

None.

VI. Discussion

A. 1505 Standard Certificate

Mr. Michels has been working with Ms. Fontello on this regulation. He reminded the PSB that critical review is needed because this regulation is that which most all other Standard Certificates are based upon/referenced. Mr. Michels stated that there needs to be more conversations with the Associate Secretary Workgroup, which is apparently the Department's team tasked with review of PSB regulations. This regulation is still a work in progress with but a few substantive changes drafted. Several questions were raised regarding subsection 3.1.5 which addresses a path to certification for an applicant from outside the field of education.

B. 1556 School to Work Transition Teacher

Mr. Michels stated that a few changes were made in to the Course/Professional Development approval process within the regulation to now require approval from the DOE. There was open discussion wherein Mr. Michels stated that the recent draft of the regulation will be forwarded to both the JDG Office and the DOE Associate Secretary Workgroup for feedback.

C. 1584 School Social Worker

This regulation is in the final review stage. There have been no questions or concerns shared with Mr. Michels outside of the Board. Mr. Michels stated that he did a query in DEEDS, compiled a report of 20 employed DE certified School Social Workers and sent out an email to these individuals requesting specific information regarding their responsibilities with students. He received numerous responses and placed the information in PSB Members' folders. There was open discussion on the responsibilities shared within the email responses and the differences between School Social Workers, State certified Social Workers and individuals placed in buildings by DFS. This regulation will be forwarded to the DOE Associate Secretary Workgroup for feedback.

D. 1591 School Principal and Assistant Principal

Mr. Michels has been working with DOE staff, legal counsel and RTTT personnel to determine if the PSB has the statutory authority to approve certification programs. Mr. Ruskowski spoke about the RTTT RFP for Aspiring School Leaders which is considerably rigorous in requirements. He gave an overview of the RFP's process and timelines in detail. Mr. Ruskowski stated that there will be two more staff members who were former Delaware principals added to the RTTT TLEU. An open question and answer period regarding his current work followed. Several questions were raised, i.e. Does PSB and SBE have the ability to certify programs; Can the PSB make the certification process work in a amended regulation; Does the RFP mirror what is included the standing regulation; What is the teaching experience requirement in the RFP? Ms. Fontello will check on the PSB's ability to authorize such a Program. This regulation has been and continues to be a work in progress.

VII. Presentation

None.

VIII. PSB Standing Committees

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria

The Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee has not met.

B. Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The Professional Development and Associated Compensation Committee have not met.

IX. Other

None.

X. Public Comment

None

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Wisnauskas and seconded by Mr. Kenton to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:55p.m.